



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings friends,

As I begin my second year as principal of Notre Dame Academy, I am reminded of what a blessed community we are all part of at NDA. We are fortunate to have dedicated faculty and staff, a strong administrative team and of course our spirited student body. On behalf of the faculty, staff and administration at NDA, it is my pleasure to welcome you and your daughter to a new school year at Notre Dame Academy.

Based on the second Educational Principal of the Sisters of Notre Dame, our theme for the 2016-17 school year is *Embracing Dignity in Self, Others and Community*. This theme will provide many opportunities for our students to foster an atmosphere that highlights how we are all worthy of respect. This morning during our first assembly of the school year, I challenged our students to be present in all that they do this school year and to step up and be servant leaders for our world. I also encouraged them to branch out and try new things. I explained to them that while doing this may make them uncomfortable, it is in that discomfort that they will grow as human beings. Finally, I asked our students to make a special effort this year to be positive and kind.

I would like to thank our Student Council for creating such an enthusiastic atmosphere at this morning's assembly. They worked very hard this summer to make sure that their fellow pandas enjoyed the first day of the school year. Our seniors were especially spirited this at this morning's assembly inspiring each grade level to show their Panda spirit. The energy in the room was absolutely amazing! I look forward to the leadership that our seniors will continue to provide this year.

Please note that students will need to pack their lunch for the remainder of the week. There are many additional noteworthy news items on the pages that follow. I encourage you to take time to read this electronic newsletter each week as it is an excellent way to stay current on the news and events at NDA.

I am confident that this will be an outstanding school year and look forward to working with the entire NDA community to continue the Notre Dame Academy tradition of academic excellence. Thank you for partnering with us. I look forward to the many graces and blessings of this new school year.

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf

Notre Dame Academy
is built on the
Four Educational Principles
of the Sisters of Notre Dame:



- The centrality of a good and provident God
- The human dignity of each person as an image of God
- The Notre Dame educator as a Gospel witness
- An integrated education for transformation



NOTRE DAME
ACADEMY
2016-17

EMBRACING DIGNITY IN SELF, OTHERS AND COMMUNITY

2016-17 School Goals

- Promote the Educational Principles of the Sisters of Notre Dame through our school theme “*Embracing Dignity in Self, Others and Community.*”
- Support learning for all students through a commitment to collaboration and data driven decision-making.
- Foster relationships leading to unity and community.
- Engage as a school community in the realization of our *Excellence Without Boundaries* program.



*She is clothed with
strength & dignity
& laughs
without fear of the future.*

PROVERBS 31:25

**IMPORTANT
REMINDERS!**

- Students must pack lunches this week. The cafeteria will be open next Tuesday.
- There will be NO SCHOOL on Monday, August 15, The Feast of the Assumption.
- Please send all completed paperwork to school this week.

STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀

Student/Parent Handbook

All parents and students are reminded to read the Student/Parent Handbook that is available [HERE](#) on the school's website. The policies and procedures as described in the handbook serve as a guide for the whole community. Don't forget to complete and return to school the pink Parent/Student Agreement form received at the Back to School Night Meetings. Your completion of

this form indicates you have read and are familiar with the contents of our Student/Parent Handbook. The forms are due on Friday, August 19 and will be collected during homeroom time.

Have you seen NDA's new website calendar?

If you haven't already checked out NDA's new website calendar, you can view it [HERE](#).



WELCOME TO NDA! ◀

New Faculty and Staff:

Gurrie Frisbee	English Teacher
Madeline Tucker	Math Teacher
Sr. Maria Francine Stacy	Spanish Teacher
Tom Kennedy	Director of Finance
Susan Colvin	Administrative Assistant, Athletics

(Pictured: Susan Colvin, Tom Kennedy, Sr. Maria Francine)



WE NEED YOUR HELP ◀

The NDA cafeteria has long prided itself on serving hot lunches on real plates to your daughters every day. Keeping our high standards requires more work and more help!

Do you have just one day a month to volunteer for two hours in the NDA cafeteria? Helping out is neither difficult nor time-consuming and our current volunteers have fun visiting the school and seeing their daughters, granddaughters and friends. Volunteers are also welcome to stick around after their two-hour shift for lunch with "the crew". Grandparents in particular seem to

love this job, so please consider asking your daughter's grandparents if they would like to help out.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Karen Brungs at 859.292.1856 or brungsk@ndapandas.org. The schedule is online and you can sign up [HERE](#).



PANDA
PARENT
CLUB

WELCOME TO ALL OF OUR NDA PARENTS! ◀

As a parent of an NDA student, you are automatically a member of our Parent Panda Club!

NDA's Parent Panda Club (PPC) is a group of parents who provide a great service to NDA by supporting and planning many social and community activities throughout the school year. There will be a PPC meeting open to all parents once each month September through May.

There are many ways to get involved at Notre Dame Academy and parent volunteers are very much appreciated. Our Panda Parent Club (PPC) goal is to create safe, fun social activities for students and parents and show appreciation for students and faculty. [CLICK HERE](#) to volunteer for various events/committees this school year.

We hope you plan to attend our meetings and share your ideas and energy. Watch for announcements in the Panda Press Weekly to find out when and where future PPC meetings will be held and learn more about the group.

GOOD NEWS!

NEWS FROM THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT ◀

Congratulations to Science Research student Catherine Meadows (Class of 2017) for earning a bronze medal in the Science category at the Genius Science Olympiad this past summer in Oswego, NY. This international science fair brings together high schoolers from over 65 countries to compete in various categories including science, design, business, and art. Catherine's project studied the effects of increased carbon dioxide levels on *Scenedesmus* (algae) to simulate pollution induced by increasing carbon dioxide emissions. "Sharing ideas and meeting people from all over the world was an amazing experience, and I encourage my NDA peers to apply so that they may pursue and be recognized for their passions," said Catherine upon her return. For more information about the competition, click [HERE](#).



NDA STUDENT RECOGNIZED FOR ARTISTIC TALENT ◀

Recently NDA's Elizabeth Womble was recognized by the Cleveland Institute of Art on their Instagram page for a psychedelic piece she created. Check it out [HERE](#).

IMPRESSIVE SUMMER SCIENCE EXPERIENCE FOR NDA FACULTY MEMBER ◀

NDA science teacher Molly Proudfit had an incredible opportunity this summer with the CDC. You can read all about it and the national lesson plan on which she collaborated below:

*At the CDC's Science Ambassador Workshop, I had the opportunity to interact with various CDC scientists and science teachers from around the country in various capacities. I toured the Insectary, where research on mosquitoes, bed nets, and malaria is conducted and also toured the Emergency Operations Center, "ground zero" for all CDC emergency activations, which occur anytime there is a significant threat to the country's or world's health, such as during the Ebola Outbreak of 2014 or the current outbreak of Zika virus. I also had the opportunity to hear two "giants" of epidemiology, Drs. James Curran and Harold Jaffe speak about their work on a CDC task force that investigated a new mystery disease in 1981 that would be later known as AIDS (their work is portrayed in the film *And The Band Played On*, starring Lily Tomlin and Richard Gere). Finally, I collaborated with Dr. Jacqueline Burkholder (Team Lead: Epidemiology, Analytics, and Informatics, Division of Emergency Operations) and 3 other secondary teachers to develop a lesson plan that introduces students to the principles of an emergency response using the public health approach with the Fungal Meningitis Outbreak of 2012 as a setting. After receiving clearance from all branches of the CDC, this lesson plan will be published on the CDC's website for nationwide use.*

Molly Proudfit

OUTSTANDING EDUCATORS ◀

NDA is proud to announce that one of our current faculty members and two recently retired faculty members have recently been recognized as "Outstanding Educators" in Cincy Magazine's Best School's issue. Greg Cerimle, Linda Bricking and Connie Roenker have been named the "Best of the Best" in our region. You can read the full list [HERE](#).

LEARNING TO LEAD ◀

After winning a national essay competition sponsored by the National Society of Colonial Dames of America, Catherine Meadows attended the Congressional Seminar in Washington, D.C., in which she was part of a model congress, toured our nation's capital, and met with senators and congressmen to discuss the US government system. "It was an amazing experience to debate, discuss, and learn about our current political system and what we, as future leaders, can do to improve upon it," said Catherine.



NEWS FROM THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT ◀

FRESHMAN ATHLETE PARENT ORIENTATION

Freshman Athlete Parent Orientation for parents of freshmen and new students is August 31 at 6:30 p.m. in the Theater and Alumnae Hall. It is recommended that at least one parent attend.

SOCCKER NEWS

The NDA Soccer Pandas began a new tradition this year. After each of their games, they invite the opposing team to pray with them in the center of the field. They invited members from St. Henry's team to join them in prayer after their scrimmage last week and it was an amazing witness and beautiful example of our students living the mission of NDA. They truly are women making a difference in leading others in prayer!



TEAM SPIRIT!

Our freshman Soccer Pandas are already showing their team spirit with their coordinating practice t-shirts. They got together last week to make shirts for "Tie Dye Tuesday"!

SPECIAL THANKS! ◀

Did you see our Panda bus this morning? We would like to thank St. Elizabeth Healthcare of Northern Kentucky for helping us spruce up our bus with a vehicle wrap. Now our Pandas can travel in style!





The 2016 Autumn Gala will be held on **Saturday, September 24** at Notre Dame Academy. It will feature cocktails, a gourmet sit-down dinner, specialty raffles, a Bourbon Tasting Bar, Keepsake Photos, Signature Cocktail, and enhanced Live and Silent Auction items. An open bar will be available throughout the evening.

We are confident that the 2016 Autumn Gala will again provide an exciting evening of friendship and fellowship for the parents, alumnae, and supporters of Notre Dame Academy. We're hoping we can count on your attendance and support this year. Questions regarding the Gala can be directed to Nancy Goeke 859. 292.1851 goeken@ndapandas.org or Taffy Hebbeler 859.250.5020 taffheb@fuse.net.

▶ Important dates

August 10	First Day of 2016-17 School Year
August 12	Opening School Mass 1:30 p.m. in Auditorium (Parents are welcome!)
August 15	NO SCHOOL - Feast of the Assumption
August 24	Common Reader Day
August 30	Parent Theatre Meeting
August 31	Freshman Athlete Parent Orientation 6:30 p.m.
September 2	Picture Day
September 5	No School: Labor Day
September 6	Diocesan Senior Mass
September 9	Mid-Quarter Club Orientation

COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

Check out the **Community News** section of **NDA's website** for news about...

- Life's a Ball - Faces of Pro-Life Awards - August 20

For a complete list of community news, [CLICK HERE](#).

